

UTRICULARIA MINOR IN HOLBROOK, MASSACHUSETTS.

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IN the spring of 1898 *Utricularia minor* was found in a small area of meadow-land in Holbrook, Massachusetts. Several specimens were collected at that time and some also in 1899, but although careful search has been made the plant has not been found since.

This *Utricularia* is one of the most delicate of the genus. None of the plants found reached a height of more than 2.5 inches. The thread-like stems lay flat upon the ground and were hidden in the *Sphagnum*. The flowers, borne upon slender erect scapes, are very small, being about as large as the flower buds of *Drosera intermedia*, with which the *Utricularia* grew. The latter was in full bloom even in the shade, while the flowers of *Drosera* were not yet expanded, and the resemblance of the two plants was so strong that in walking along one found considerable difficulty in distinguishing them.

A specimen was recently sent to Mr. Emile F. Williams, whose reply I quote in part: "*Utricularia minor* has been one of my desiderata for some years. I did not realize it flowered so early. Your date is May 25. It was reported years ago from Tewksbury, but has not been seen by any one of late years and botanists were beginning to be very sceptical about it in this part of the country."

A note as to the growing conditions of the plant might be of assistance to anyone who should wish to look for it next spring. It is described in Gray's Manual as growing in shallow water, but I have found that during the past two years, when water stood an inch or two deep over this spot in the meadow, no trace of *Utricularia* could be found. During the preceding two years the seasons had been rather dry so that the meadow in this place was covered with a boggy growth of *Sphagnum*. There were scattered cranberry vines, *Vaccinium macrocarpon*, also *Drosera rotundifolia* and *D. intermedia*, and the green buds of *Pogonia ophioglossoides*.

Several readers of RHODORA would be interested to know if anyone else has collected *Utricularia minor* recently, and if so under what conditions.

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